

Part I – Agency Profile

Agency Overview

The Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) serves the citizens of Idaho by ensuring that water is conserved and available for the sustainability of Idaho's economy, ecosystems, and the resulting quality of life. Gary Spackman, the Director of IDWR, was appointed to his position by Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter on July 11, 2012, after serving as Interim Director since July 16, 2009.

The eight-person Idaho Water Resource Board (Board) was created by constitutional amendment in 1965. The current members of the Board are Jeff Raybould, Chairman; Roger W. Chase, Vice Chairman; Jo Ann Cole-Hansen, Secretary; Dale Van Stone, Albert Barker, Dean Stevenson, Peter Van Der Meulen, and Brian Olmstead.

The Director and the Board interact in a level working relationship. The Board sets long-term vision and policy and finances, constructs, and operates water projects on behalf of the state. IDWR administers water rights and performs other regulatory functions.

IDWR's main office is located in Boise. Four regional offices serve Idaho citizens: Northern Regional Office in Coeur d'Alene, Eastern Regional Office in Idaho Falls, Southern Regional Office in Twin Falls, and Western Regional Office in Boise. IDWR also operates a field office in Salmon.

Core Functions/Idaho Code

IDWR is comprised of three bureaus and two stand-alone sections.

- Water Allocations Bureau: One of two regulatory bureaus within the Department. Water Allocation Bureau personnel work in the state office and in all four regional offices. The Water Allocation Bureau contains two units: the Water Rights Section and the Adjudication Section.
- Water Compliance Bureau: The other regulatory bureau within the Department. The Compliance Bureau is comprised of the Water Distribution Section, Ground Water Protection Section, Stream Channel Protection program, and Floodplain Management program.
- Planning Bureau: The Planning and Projects Bureau primarily supports Board programs, including the State Water Plan, Idaho Water Supply Bank, water project development and funding, minimum stream flows, natural and recreational river designations, and comprehensive basin and aquifer planning. The Bureau contains a Water Projects Section. Several adjunct staff report directly to the Bureau Chief.
- Geospatial Technology Section: The Geospatial Technology Section develops spatial data, analysis, and tools in support of IDWR operations. These products include Evapotranspiration data and analysis, interactive maps, and field and desktop tools that allow IDWR staff to collect spatial components of IDWR data.
- Hydrology Section: The Hydrology Section gathers and archives scientific data, analyzes and models hydrologic data, and technically supports administrative decisions for the management, planning, and protection of the state's water resources.

In addition, the Safety of Dams program is a stand-alone unit overseen by the Deputy Director.

Finally, Legal Services and Support Services support IDWR operations. The Legal Services staff are employees of the Office of the Attorney General and housed at IDWR. Support Services include Human Resources, Purchasing, and Fiscal.

Primary authority for the existence of the Idaho Department of Water Resources, the Idaho Water Resource Board, and their programs rests in Title 42, Idaho Code. The importance of water in Idaho was recognized even before statehood. Article XV of Idaho's Constitution contains seven sections dealing with water including Section 7 that established the Idaho Water Resource Board.

Revenue and Expenditures:

Revenue	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
General Revenue Fund	19,300,500	19,502,100	19,658,700	18,957,600
Indirect Cost Recovery	666,000	671,300	714,600	609,800
Aquifer Planning & Mgmt.	1,293,800	1,415,500	1,440,800	1,453,400
Economic Recovery Fun	0	0	0	0
Water Admin. Fund	1,544,500	1,556,700	1,605,900	1,612,500
Technology Infrast. Stab.	0	88,000	322,800	0
Adjudications ¹	36,400	36,700	38,000	38,000
Federal Grant	2,307,000	1,700,200	1,719,800	1,725,600
Miscellaneous Revenue	<u>1,463,600</u>	<u>1,491,300</u>	<u>1,531,400</u>	<u>1,542,400</u>
Total	26,611,800	26,461,800	27,032,000	25,939,300
Expenditures	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Personnel Costs	12,555,900	12,551,000	12,662,700	11,794,300
Operating Expenditures	4,945,400	5,089,700	5,264,100	5,147,000
Capital Outlay	779,200	417,300	59,000	140,000
Trustee/Benefit Payments	<u>882,000</u>	<u>882,000</u>	<u>908,500</u>	<u>408,500</u>
Total	19,162,500	18,940,000	18,894,300	17,459,800

Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided:

Planning and Projects Bureau				
Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Water Resource Board				
Loans	4 for \$4,341,160	2 for \$4,600,000	2 for \$2,190,000	3 for \$171,000
Revenue Bond Issuances	0	0	0	0
Research and Project Development				
Surface Water Storage Studies in Progress	3	3	3	3
ESPA Aquifer Management				
Acre-feet Recharged into Aquifer	545,171 AF	345,124 AF	447,956 AF	130,463 AF
Streamflow Improvement Projects				
Upper Salmon River Basin	9 for \$2,408,893	6 for \$695,076	1 for \$13,404	6 for \$1,058,261
Water Supply Bank				
Rental Applications Received	99	100	94	124
Rental Applications Processed	107	108	57	127
Lease Applications Received	244	283	175	219
Lease Applications Processed	295	272	227	235
Lease Contract Release Requests	0	3	4	2

¹ This revenue source was previously called 'N. Idaho Adjudication'. Beginning in FY22, it has been renamed 'Adjudications' to reflect all adjudication activity in the State.

Water Allocation Bureau				
Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Adjudications (State Law Based Claims)				
New Claims Filed	117	1,209	1,085	322
Recommendations Submitted to the Court ²	5	7,926	51	112
Number of Active Claims Awaiting the Director's Report	N/A	1115	1931	2135
Applications for Permit				
Number of Applications Received	423	547	468	523
Number of Unprotected Applications Pending	278	288	194	208
Number of Protested Applications Pending	214	197	179	155
Total Applications in Progress	492	485	373	363
Total Applications Completed	349	489	487	509
Applications on Moratorium Hold	748	745	782	705
Water Right Transfers				
Number of Applications Received	238	278	245	279
Number of Applications Resolved	275	277	262	291
Number of Unprotected Applications Pending	102	93	80	90
Number of Protested Applications Pending	38	43	46	27
Total Number Applications Pending	140	136	126	117
Water Right Licenses				
Number of Licenses Issued	367	259	421	412
Number of Licenses Pending	836	795	650	581
Water Right Ownership Changes				
Number of Ownership Changes Processed	2,895	2,785	2,545	2,581
Number of Ownership Changes Pending	308	312	412	645
Safety of Dams Program				
Inspections of Existing Dams	24	110	60	93
Design Review & Approval - New Const. or Repair	2	10	2	11
Percentage of High Hazard Dams with Up-to-Date Operation/Emergency Plans	47%	42%	42%	63%
Number of Dam Failures and Uncontrolled Release of Stored Water ³	2	1	0	0

² During 2017 and 2018, IDWR prepared 5,500 recommendations included in the Director's Report that was filed with the court in July 2018 (FY19).

³ The "Number of Dam Failures and Uncontrolled Release of Stored Water" metric has been added to the Performance Report for FY21. Dam failures and uncontrolled releases of water indicate the level of success or failure of the State's dam safety program.

Water Compliance Bureau				
Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Water Distribution				
Water Districts Created, Expanded, or Modified	3	2	0	0
Measurement Orders Issued (comprehensive only)	3	3	0	0
Ground Water Protection				
Well Permits Issued	3255	3,380	4,096	4739
Driller Licenses Issued ⁴	195	235	223	283
Injection Well Apps Processed	247	271	260	525
Geothermal Well Apps Processed	0	1	0	0
Percentage of Wells Inspected ⁵	18.6%	22.5%	23.5%	23.4%
Enforcement/Compliance (Water Rights, Well Construction, and Stream Channel)				
Notices of Violation Issued	15	14	13	12
Stream Channel Alterations (SCA) Program				
SCA Apps Received	482	402	402	324
SCA Permits Issued ⁶	269	319	288	234
Percentage of SCA applications processed within 60 days of receipt (Min. Standard Projects only)	N/A	63%	71.3%	88.6%
Percentage of permitted SCA activities receiving pre or post inspection	50.9%	31.6%	29.8%	42.7%
Recreational Mining Letter				
Permits Issued	475	362	376	343
Flood Plain Management Program				
Community Asst. Visits (CAVs) Opened or Ongoing	18	25	23	24
CAVs Closed	5	1	10	4
Comm. Asst. Contacts (CACs) Completed	77	11 ⁷	25	25
Training, Outreach, & Presentations Given	17	24	13	13

⁴ The annual number of driller licenses issued includes Driller Licenses and Class I and II Operator Permits.

⁵ IDWR adopted this benchmark in FY2019. It is the percent of permitted wells inspected during construction, including well seal placement, well modification, and well decommissioning.

⁶ Some permits issued in the current fiscal year were received in the previous fiscal year

⁷ On July 1, 2018, the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) Region X office issued a directive revising the definition of what constitutes a Community Assistance Contact (CAC). FEMA's revised definition entails significantly more work to complete a CAC, including a complete review of a community's flood management ordinances, which can take six months or longer. Because of the new CAC directive, without dedicating additional resources to its Flood Management Program, IDWR completes significantly fewer CACs in a single year.

Hydrology Section				
Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Surface and Ground Water Investigations				
Initiated	2	2	2	1
Ongoing	3	1	3	5
Completed	N/A	2	N/A	N/A
Ground Water Model Revisions and Recalibration efforts				
Initiated	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ongoing	3	2	2	1
Completed	N/A	1	N/A	1
Water Rights Accounting Program Modernization efforts				
Initiated	N/A	N/A	1	2
Ongoing	2	N/A	N/A	1
Completed	2	2	N/A	N/A
Water Measurement Sites				
Total Water Measurement Sites	1,429	1,503	1,522	1,508
Total Ground Water Measurement Sites	1,195	1,270	1,288	1,256
Managed Recharge	47	63	93	87
Geothermal	38	37	37	37
Ground Water Quality	204	238	255	303
Water Level Monitoring only	906 ⁸	932 ⁹	903	829
Total Surface Water Sites	237	233	234	252
Surface Water Quality	3	10	8	16
Surface Water Gaging ¹⁰	234	223	226	236
Equipment Deployment				
New Pressure Transducers Deployed in Wells	36	90	37	25
New Telemetry Systems at Stream Gages	22	4	5	1

Geospatial Technology Section				
Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
GIS Database Large Development & Integration projects				
Initiated	2	3	4	2
Ongoing	4	4	2	6
Completed	2	2	2	1
Target GIS projects and requests completed	132	102	156	89

⁸ Plus 713 additional wells during the spring 2018 ESPA Mass Measurement

⁹ Plus 58 additional wells during the FY2019 Wood River Valley Mass Measurement

¹⁰ USGS gages + return flow sites

Licensing Freedom Act

Agencies who participate in licensure must report on the number of applicants denied licensure or license renewal and the number of disciplinary actions taken against license holders.

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Class I Operator Permit				
Total Number of Licenses	65	63	76	85
Number of New Applicants Denied Licensure	0	0	0	0
Number of Applicants Refused Renewal of a License	0	0	0	0
Number of Complaints Against Licensees	1	1	0	0
Number of Final Disciplinary Actions Against Licensees	0	1	0	0
Class II Operator Permit				
Total Number of Licenses	20	37	29	33
Number of New Applicants Denied Licensure	0	0	0	0
Number of Applicants Refused Renewal of a License	0	0	0	0
Number of Complaints Against Licensees	0	0	0	0
Number of Final Disciplinary Actions Against Licensees	0	0	0	0
Licensed Driller				
Total Number of Licenses	107	134	118	165
Number of New Applicants Denied Licensure	0	0	0	0
Number of Applicants Refused Renewal of a License	0	0	0	0
Number of Complaints Against Licensees	2	5	5	3
Number of Final Disciplinary Actions Against Licensees	11	3	2	2

Part II – Performance Measures

Goal 1 Manage and allocate water resources as required by statute to optimize economic activity and protect public safety.						
Performance Measure		FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
1. Water Right Licenses Number of Pending Water Right Licenses	actual	836	795	650	581	
	<i>target</i>	750	650	600	550	450
2. Water Right Transfers Number of Pending Transfer Applications ¹¹	actual	140	136	126	117	
	<i>target</i>	130	120	110	100	100
3. Water Supply Bank ¹² Median number of days to receive, process, and recommend water supply bank leases and rentals	actual	N/A	N/A	35	48	
	<i>target</i>	N/A	N/A	30	30	30
4. Ground Water Protection Percentage of wells inspected during construction, modification, or decommissioning	actual	18.6%	22.5%	23.5%	23.4%	
	<i>target</i>	25-30%	25%	25%	25%	28%
5. Adjudications (State Based Claims) Total Claims Taken and Recommendations Submitted to the Idaho Water Adjudications Court ¹³	actual	N/A	8973	970	434	
	<i>target</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5,500

Goal 2 Administer and regulate water rights, protect senior water rights, and conserve Idaho’s water for future use.						
Performance Measure		FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
6. Water Distribution Water Districts created or modified	actual	3	2	0	0	
	<i>target</i>	1-2	1-2	1-2	1-2	1-2
7. Ground Water Measurement Sites New Pressure transducers in monitoring wells	actual	36	90	37	25	
	<i>target</i>	25	25	25	25	25
8. New telemetry systems deployed at stream gages	actual	22	4	5	1	
	<i>target</i>	10	10	10	5	5

¹¹ Pending transfer applications represent the backlog of incomplete transfer applications at the end of the fiscal year.

¹² Effective FY20, IDWR changed the Water Supply Bank performance measure. The previous measure tracked the number of applications received, over which IDWR has no control. The new measure going forward tracks the mean number of days to process applications. Number of applications received and processed are still available in Part I of this report.

¹³ The previous adjudication performance measure, “Percent of Recommendations filed in the CSRBA and the PRBA by basin”, does not account for early years of basin-wide adjudication when IDWR is taking claims rather than completing recommendations. Beginning in FY21, IDWR will report on the sum of claims-taking and recommendation activities.

<p align="center">Goal 3 Promote and finance projects that will advance the sustainability of water resources into the foreseeable future and that will optimize the use of water of the State of Idaho.</p>						
Performance Measure		FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
9. Water Resource Board Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer acre-feet recharged into aquifer	<i>actual</i>	545,000 AF	345,124 AF	447,956 AF	130,463 AF	
	<i>target</i>	250,000 AF	250,000 AF	250,000 AF	250,000 AF	250,000 AF

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